

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 01081 172317Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /052 W  
-----081746 172324Z /61  
O 172300Z FEB 78 ZFF-4  
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7353  
AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL NIACT IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 1081

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, EC  
SUBJECT: CFP PREPARING FOR OFFICIAL WORD OF BUCARAM'S  
DISQUALIFICATION

REF: QUITO 1027

1. JAIME ROLDOS, NATIONAL POLITICAL DIRECTOR OF THE CONCENTRATION OF POPULAR FORCES (CFP) AND ASSAD BUCARAM'S PRINCIPAL LIEUTENANT, TELEPHONED POLCOUNS FROM GUAYAQUIL AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 17 TO SAY THAT CFP WAS CONVINCED THAT MILITARY HAD MADE UP ITS MIND TO BLOCK BUCARAM'S PRESIDENTIAL HOPES. ROLDOS SAID THAT THIS IS COMING AS A GREAT BLOW TO BUCARAM AND HAS INFURIATED THE PARTY.

2. ASKED WHAT THEIR PLANS WERE NOW, ROLDOS REPLIED THAT A MEETING OF PARTY LEADERS WOULD BE HELD THE NEXT DAY TO DISCUSS THIS. HE SAID THAT THERE WAS WIDESPREAD SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF "FORCEFUL REJECTION" OF THE GOE'S DECISION WHEN IT IS ANNOUNCED. BUT OTHERS WERE ARGUING THAT VIOLENCE AND CFP WITHDRAWAL FROM THE POLITICAL PROCESS MIGHT PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF MILITARY HARDLINERS AND SET BACK BOTH THE CFP AND THE MOVEMENT TOWARD CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. HE DID NOT THINK THAT THE CFP'S SWITCHING ITS SUPPORT TO ANOTHER PARTY'S CANDIDATE WAS A GOOD IDEA.  
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DATE WAS A LIVE ALTERNATIVE AT THIS POINT, AND THEY WERE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO GO WITH THEIR OWN TICKET IF THEY DECIDED TO STAY IN THE RACE. POLCOUNS SAID HE HAD HEARD RUMORS THAT EX-DIPLOMAT LEOPOLDO BENITEZ VINUEZA MIGHT BE THE CFP CANDIDATE. ROLDOS REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NOT TRUE, AND HINTED THAT HE (ROLDOS) WAS THE LEADING ALTERNATIVE.

3. ROLDOS SAID THAT HE COULD NOT COME TO QUITO AS PLANNED TO, INTER ALIA, DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH US, BUT HOPED TO DO SO AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK. HE DID NOT INDICATE THAT BUCARAM DESIRED ANY ACTION BY THE US.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE AS SUGGESTED BY ROLDOS, WE DOUBT WHETHER IT WILL BE VERY EFFECTIVE OR CAN BE SUSTAINED VERY LONG. NEITHER THE VELASQUISTAS NOR AROSEMENISTAS, WHOSE PALADINS WILL PROBABLY ALSO BE EXCLUDED BY THE PROVISIONAL ELECTORAL LAW, HAS THE DESIRE OR THE CAPACITY TO REACT VERY STRONGLY AND HAVE BEEN DISCOUNTED AS POPULAR FORCES FOR SOME TIME.  
CORR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION CANDIDATES, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Subject:** CFP PREPARING FOR OFFICIAL WORD OF BUCARAM'S DISQUALIFICATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, SHUM, EC  
**To:** STATE GUAYAQUIL  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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